

Docket No.: 061355-0046

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
Shunsuke HIJIKATA	:	Confirmation Number: 9940
Serial No.: 10/656,173	:	Group Art Unit: 3663
Filed: September 08, 2003	:	Examiner: Tuan C. To
For: DRIVING ASSIST SYSTEM FOR VEHICLE	:	

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Amendment and Remarks are submitted in response to the non-final Office Action dated May 22, 2007. Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) A driving assist system for a vehicle, comprising:

a traveling condition recognition device configured to detect a state of the vehicle and a traveling environment of the vehicle;

a risk potential calculation device configured to calculate a risk potential present around the vehicle based upon detection results obtained by the traveling condition recognition device;

a reaction force adjustment device configured to adjust reaction force characteristics of a steering device or an accelerator pedal based upon the risk potential calculated by the risk potential calculation device;

an external influence detection device configured to detect an external influence which will affect an operation of the steering device or the accelerator pedal by a driver; and

a reaction force correction device configured to correct the reaction force characteristics of the steering device or the accelerator pedal adjusted by the reaction force adjustment device, based upon detection results obtained by the external influence detection device. ~~A driving assist system for a vehicle according to claim 1, wherein:~~

the reaction force adjustment device adjusts at least one of reaction force characteristics of the accelerator pedal and reaction force characteristics of the steering device as the reaction force characteristics of the steering device or the accelerator pedal.

3. (Currently Amended) A driving assist system for a vehicle according to claim ~~[[1,]]~~ 2, wherein:

the reaction force adjustment device adjusts reaction force characteristics of the

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accelerator pedal as the reaction force characteristics of the steering device or the accelerator pedal;

the external influence detection device detects a state of inclination of a lane on which the vehicle is traveling as the external influence; and

the reaction force correction device corrects the reaction force characteristics of the accelerator pedal in conformance to the state of inclination of the lane detected by the external influence detection device.

4. (Currently Amended) A driving assist system for a vehicle according to claim [[1,]] 2, wherein:

the reaction force adjustment device adjusts reaction force characteristics of the steering device as the reaction force characteristics of the steering device or the accelerator pedal;

the external influence detection device detects a curving direction of a lane on which the vehicle is currently traveling and a direction along which the risk potential is present as the external influence; and

the reaction force correction device corrects the reaction force characteristics of the steering device in conformance to the curving direction of the lane and the direction along which the risk potential is present relative to the vehicle detected by the external influence detection device.

5. (Original) A driving assist system for a vehicle according to claim 3, wherein:

the reaction force adjustment device calculates a reaction force adjustment quantity for the accelerator pedal in correspondence to the risk potential and adjusts the reaction force characteristics of the accelerator pedal by incorporating the reaction force adjustment quantity; and